

REMARKS

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 10 and 35 are allowed.

Claim Status

Claims 3, 4, 10 to 21, 26, 27, 29, 32, 35, 38, 43, and 44 are pending.

Claims 4 and 35 have been amended.

Claim 4 has been amended to make it independent. Claim 35 has been amended to correct a grammar and a punctuation error.

35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 3, 4, 11-21, 26, 27, 29, 32, 38, 43, and 44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Specifically, in item 2(a), claims 3, 11, and 32 have been rejected because these claims recite two different ranges for the variable m.

Applicants respectfully submit that the ranges for the variable m would be clear to one skilled in the art when viewed in the context of the claims, and further in view of the definitions of the variable m given in the specification.

Overall m is 0 to 6, except in the case of substituted aryl or substituted heteroaryl, wherein the substituents on aryl or heteroaryl may have the variable m. In the case of the substituents, then m is 1 to 6.

See claim 3, which clearly shows that m is 0 to 6 generally, but m is 1 to 6 in substituents on aryl or heteroaryl groups. The specification also makes this distinction. See, for example, page 45, line 21, where m is defined as 1 to 6 in the context of substituents.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the definitions of variable m as used in the claims would be readily understood by those skilled in the art in the

context of where the variable m occurred in the claims and further in view of the definitions in the specification.

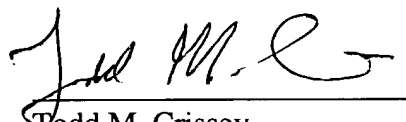
In item 2(b) of the Office Action, claim 4 contains compounds having a carbothioic acid moiety, which are allegedly not within the scope of formula III of claim 3, upon which claim 4 depends. Claim 4 has been amended to make it independent.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that the rejection of Claims 3, 4, 11 to 21, 26, 27, 29, 32, 38, 43, and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph have been overcome. Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 3, 4, 11 to 21, 26, 27, 29, 32, 38, 43, and 44.

Date: 4/13/2005

Respectfully submitted,



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